



# Press Release

## Commander Navy Installations Command

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**ALL MILITARY, DON CIVILIANS AND FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE GULF REGIONS ARE ASKED TO CALL THE KATRINA HOTLINE AT 1-877-414-5358 TO CHECK IN AND RECEIVE INFORMATION ON ASSISTANCE.**

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## NAVY FIREFIGHTERS DEPLOY TO GULF REGION TO ASSIST

Efforts are underway to provide relief for Navy firefighters in the areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Twelve firefighters were immediately deployed from NAS Pensacola, Fla., to assist fire crews at Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Miss. Once on the ground, six of these firefighters were quickly dispatched to help firefighters at Naval Station Pascagoula, Miss. Six additional firefighters were deployed from NAS Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 1, and another six arrived from NAS Corpus Christi, Texas, Sept. 3, providing welcome relief for exhausted firefighters.

Commander Navy Installations Command is currently executing a plan that will add 59 firefighters and 12 fire trucks to provide additional relief and continue to support the fire and emergency services mission in the affected areas.

Firefighters at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base New Orleans, La.; and Construction Battalion Center Gulfport, Naval Air Station Meridian and Naval Station

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## FIREFIGHTERS 2-2-2-2-2

Pascagoula, Miss., have been working tirelessly since the storm subsided.

Navy firefighters who were on duty the night Katrina came ashore were forced to remain on duty because the off-duty firefighters scheduled to relieve them were not able to travel back to the bases due to storm damage.

“We are working around the clock to get relief crews and additional vehicles and equipment into the area” said Navy Region South Fire Chief Paul Murray. “We want to give these people time off to check on their own homes and families and maintain our ability to respond to the needs of our military communities.”

Many Navy firefighters refused to leave the job until relieved despite the anxiety over the damage to their own homes. “They were going to stay as long as they were needed,” said Chief Murray. “That kind of fortitude raises the bar for the rest of us to come their aid as quickly as possible.”